

Application Number 09/927,920
Responsive to Office Action mailed October 11, 2006

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method comprising:

receiving product movement information for a plurality of shipments of products,
wherein the product movement information includes a source location, a
destination location and a transportation device for each of the shipments, and
further wherein the products include at least two grown commodities from
different fields;
determining a plurality of lots based on the product movement information by assigning a
new lot identifier each time the grown commodities from two or more of the
different fields are commingled by storing or moving the grown commodities
together as a single lot; and
generating, based on the product movement information and the assigned lot identifiers, a
report identifying the plurality of lots in which the grown commodities from
different fields have been commingled products of a similar type that have been
stored together into a single lot.

Claims 2-3 (Cancelled).

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the product movement information includes a designation of a farm, a field and time harvested.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 further comprising issuing a recall order recalling one of the lots upon determining that the lot is contaminated a lot
determined to be contaminated.

Application Number 09/927,920
Responsive to Office Action mailed October 11, 2006

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 5 further comprising:
determining all of the lots that have been commingled with the contaminated lot; and
recalling all the lots determined to have been commingled with the contaminated lot.

Claim 7 (Original): The method of claim 1 further comprising:
presenting a contract interface to define contracts between producers and customers based
on order established by the customers; and
providing a contract module to monitor contract generation and prevent a contract from
being generated that is in excess of the order.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising presenting an
interface to define programs for tracking a given one of the determined lots.

Claim 9 (Original): The method of claim 8, further comprising presenting an interface for
receiving program information to establish checklists for procedures for moving and
storing the given lot.

Claim 10 (Original): The method of claim 8, further comprising:
presenting an interface for receiving program information for establishing parameters for
certifying actions taken in moving and storing the given lot; and
receiving an indication that the actions have been certified.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein each of the lot identifiers
the identification of the lot further comprises an indication of the character of the
commingled products.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 11, wherein the product is a grown
commodity and the indication of the character of the products includes the seed variety
used to grow each of the grown commodities.

Application Number 09/927,920
Responsive to Office Action mailed October 11, 2006

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 11, wherein ~~the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the products includes an indication of whether any of the grown commodity[ies] is bio-engineered.~~

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 11, wherein ~~the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the products includes an indication of whether any of the grown commodity[ies] is conventionally grown.~~

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 11, wherein ~~the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the products includes an indication of whether any of the grown commodity[ies] is organically grown.~~

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): A method comprising:
receiving product movement information including a location identification; and
storing the product movement information, wherein the product movement information
includes an indication of a time in, a time out, a location identification, and an
indication of whether the location was clean and empty when receiving the lot.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 16 further comprising receiving a lot
identifier.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 17 wherein a new lot identifier is assigned to
each new lot and a new lot is created each time two lots are commingled.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 16, wherein the location information
indicates a transportation device.

Claim 20 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 16 further comprising tracing the lot to
determine the location that the lot has been in and to determine every product that has
been commingled with the lot.

Application Number 09/927,920
Responsive to Office Action mailed October 11, 2006

Claim 21 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 20 further comprising generating a report of the traced lot.

Claim 22 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 16 further comprising issuing an order recalling a lot determined to be contaminated.

Claim 23 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 22 further comprising: determining all lots that have been commingled with the contaminated lot; and recalling all the lots determined to have been commingled with the contaminated lot.

Claim 24 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 16 further comprising providing an interface for allowing the customer to define programs for tracking a given lot.

Claim 25 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 16 wherein the product movement information is received from a business entity.

Claim 26 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 24 further comprising providing an interface for establishing checklists of procedures for moving and storing the given lot that must be followed to comply with the program.

Claim 27 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 24 further comprising: providing an interface for establishing parameters for certifying actions taken in moving and storing the given lot; and receiving an indication that the actions have been certified.

Claim 28 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 27, wherein receiving the indication includes electronically receiving a certification document.

Application Number 09/927,920
Responsive to Office Action mailed October 11, 2006

Claim 29 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 16, wherein the identification of the lot further comprises an indication of the character of the product.

Claim 30 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 29 wherein the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the product includes the seed variety that was used to grow the commodity.

Claim 31 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 29 wherein the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the product includes an indication of whether the commodity is bio-engineered.

Claim 32 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 29, wherein the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the product includes an indication of whether the commodity is conventionally grown.

Claim 33 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 29, wherein the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the product includes an indication of whether the commodity is organically grown.

Claim 34 (Withdrawn): A method comprising:
receiving lot identification information from a producer;
receiving storage location information for each storage location the lot is stored in including an identification the storage location, an indication of a time in, a time out, and a clean and empty status;
receiving transportation information about each transportation device the lot is transported in, including an identification the transportation device, an indication of a time in, a time out, and a clean and empty status;
storing the received information in a database; and
displaying a tracking interface for tracking a lot based on the information in the database.

Application Number 09/927,920
Responsive to Office Action mailed October 11, 2006

Claim 35 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 34 wherein new lot identification information is assigned to each new lot and a new lot is created each time two lots are commingled.

Claim 36 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 34, wherein the received storage location information also includes an identification of any other products that the lot may be commingled with during storage.

Claim 37 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 34, wherein the received transportation information also includes an identification of any other products that the lot may be commingled with during storage.

Claim 38 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 34, wherein lot identification information is a designation of a farm, a field and a time harvested.

Claim 39 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 34 further comprising tracing the lot to determine each storage location and transportation device that the lot has been in previously.

Claim 40 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 39, wherein tracing the lot identifies every product that has been commingled with the lot.

Claim 41 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 34 further comprising:
determining if a lot is contaminated; and
issuing an order recalling a contaminated lot.

Claim 42 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 41 further comprising:
identifying each lot the contaminated lot has been commingled with; and
recalling all lots commingled with the contaminated lot.

Application Number 09/927,920
Responsive to Office Action mailed October 11, 2006

Claim 43 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 34 further comprising providing an interface for a customer to define programs for tracking a given lot.

Claim 44 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 43 further comprising providing an interface for establishing checklists for procedures for moving and storing the given lot that must be followed to comply with the program.

Claim 45 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 44 further comprising: providing an interface for establishing parameters for certifying actions taken in moving and storing the given lot; and receiving an indication that the actions have been certified.

Claim 46 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 45, wherein receiving the indication includes electronically receiving a certification document.

Claim 47 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 34, wherein the identification of the lot further comprises an indication of the character of the product.

Claim 48 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 47, wherein the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the product includes the seed variety that was used to grow the commodity.

Claim 49 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 47, wherein the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the product includes an indication of whether the commodity is bio-engineered.

Claim 50 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 47, wherein the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the product includes an indication of whether the commodity is conventionally grown.

Application Number 09/927,920
Responsive to Office Action mailed October 11, 2006

Claim 51 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 47, wherein the product is a grown commodity and the indication of the character of the product includes an indication of whether the commodity is organically grown.

Claim 52 (Currently Amended): A computer-readable medium comprising instructions stored thereon causing a programmable processor to:

present an operating interface to receive operating instructions from a customer to define a lot tracking program;

present a production interface to receive lot identification information from one or more [[a]] producers of a plurality of products, wherein the lot identification information identifies a lot for each of the products, and wherein the products include at least two grown commodities from different fields;

present a transportation interface to receive movement information from a transporter of the products including an identification of the each transportation device and timing information, wherein the timing information for each lot includes a time stamp identifying when the lot is moved; and

present a storage interface to receive storage information from one or more [[a]] storage facilit[[y]]ies indicating the location where each of the lots is stored and timing information for the storage, wherein the timing information for each lot includes a time stamp identifying when the lot is stored;

assign a new lot identifier each time two or more lots containing grown commodities from the different fields are commingled by transporting or storing the grown commodities together as a single lot; and

present a tracing interface wherein a given lot can be identified and its history traced by identifying any other lots that have been commingled with the given lot.

Claim 53 (Cancelled).

Claim 54 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 52, wherein the timing information includes a time the lot moves in and a time the lot moves out.

Application Number 09/927,920
Responsive to Office Action mailed October 11, 2006

Claim 55 (Original): The computer readable medium of claim 52, wherein the storage information includes an indication of whether the storage facility is clean and empty.

Claim 56 (Original): The computer readable medium of claim 52, wherein the movement information includes an indication of whether the transportation device is clean and empty.

Claim 57 (Previously Presented): The computer readable medium of claim 52, having further instructions stored thereon to cause the programmable processor to provide a recall interface wherein a given lot can be identified as contaminated and the contaminated lot and any lots of a similar type commingled with the contaminated lot are identified and recalled based on the lot identification information, the movement information, and the storage information.

Claim 58 (Original): The computer readable medium of claim 52, wherein the storage information includes an identification of any lots stored in the storage facility since the last indicated clean and empty status.

Claim 59 (Original): The computer readable medium of claim 52, wherein the movement information includes an identification of any lots moved in the transportation device since the last indicated clean and empty status.

Claim 60 (Original): The computer-readable medium of claim 55, having further instructions stored thereon to cause the programmable processor to:

provide a contract interface so that a customer can define a contract as part of the lot tracking program; and
monitor a contract status and prevent the generation of a contract in excess of the lot tracking program.

Application Number 09/927,920
Responsive to Office Action mailed October 11, 2006

Claim 61 (Withdrawn): A computer-readable medium comprising instructions stored thereon to cause a programmable processor to create a database table comprising:
a first field for storing a unique lot identifier;
a second field for storing a time stamp;
a third field for storing a unique location identifier; and
update the database with information received relating to the database fields.

Claim 62 (Withdrawn): The computer-readable medium of claim 61, wherein a new lot identifier is assigned to each new lot and a new lot is created each time two lots are commingled.

Claim 63 (Withdrawn): The computer-readable medium of claim 61, wherein the time stamp includes a first time and date the lot is moved into a location and a second time and date that the lot is moved out of the location.

Claim 64 (Withdrawn): The computer-readable medium of claim 61 comprising further instructions stored thereon to cause the programmable processor to create a fourth field in the database for indicating whether other products are commingled with the lot.

Claim 65 (Withdrawn): The computer-readable medium of claim 61 comprising further instructions stored thereon to cause the programmable processor to create a fourth field in the database for indicating whether the location is clean and empty.

Claim 66 (Withdrawn): The computer-readable medium of claim 61 comprising further instructions stored thereon to cause the programmable processor to trace an identified lot and determine each location the identified lot has been in previously.

Claim 67 (Withdrawn): The computer-readable medium of claim 66, wherein the trace also indicates any other lots commingled with the identified lot.

Application Number 09/927,920
Responsive to Office Action mailed October 11, 2006

Claim 68 (Currently Amended): A system comprising:

a database to store movement tracking information relating to a unique identification of a plurality of lots containing products, a location of each of the lots, and timing information associated with the movement of each of the lots, wherein the products include at least two grown commodities from different fields; and a web server to generate a tracking screen for tracing the movement and storage of one or more of the lots based on the database, wherein the server is configured to assign a new lot identifier to a first one of the lots each time two or more of the lots containing the grown commodities from the different fields are commingled by storing or moving the grown commodities together into the first lot, and wherein the server is configured to identify any of the commingled products of a similar type that have been stored together into a single lot.

Claim 69 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 68, wherein the web server further comprises a program configuration module configured to allow a customer to define a program for tracking the lots.

Claim 70 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 69, wherein the program provides a checklist for handling the lots.

Claim 71 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 69, further comprising a contract module that allows the customer to generate a contract with a producer for a quantity of a product defining the lots.

Claim 72 (Original): The system of claim 71, wherein the contract module prevents the generation of a contract in excess of a predetermined maximum order.

Application Number 09/927,920
Responsive to Office Action mailed October 11, 2006

Claim 73 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 69, wherein the program configuration module allows the customer to define certification requirements for handling the lots.

Claim 74 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 70 73, wherein the certification requirements include electronically delivering certification documents to the system.

Claim 75 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 68, further comprising:
an audit, certification and testing module configured to allow transporters of the lots to identify for each of the lots a specific transportation device, a time the lot enters the transportation device, a time the lot leaves the transportation device, and a clean and empty status of the transportation device.

Claim 76 (Original): The system of claim 68, wherein the system is in communication with a business entity and receives movement tracking information from the business entity.

Claim 77 (Original): The system of claim 68, further comprising a contract module for facilitating and monitoring contracts wherein the contract module prevents the generation of a contract in excess of a predetermined order maximum.

Claim 78 (Currently Amended): The system of claim 68, further comprising an audit, certification and testing module configured to allow storage facilities that store the lots to identify for each of the lots a specific storage location, a time the lot enters the storage location, a time the lot leaves the storage location, and a clean and empty status of the storage location.

Application Number 09/927,920
Responsive to Office Action mailed October 11, 2006

Claim 79 (Withdrawn): A system configured to track of movements of a product lot between a producer of the product, transporters of the product, and storage units that store the product, the system comprising:

- a database;
- a server configured to
 - receive production information from the producer, the production information including an identification of a seed variety used for the lot, the field the lot was grown on, a farm storage location, timing data indicating when the lot was stored and when the lot was shipped from the farm storage location, an identification of commingled products, and a certification certifying at least a portion of the production information;
 - receive transportation information from a transporter of the lot, the transportation information including an identification of the transportation device, a time received in the transportation device, a time unloaded from the transportation device, an identification of products commingled during transportation, and a certification certifying at least a portion of the transportation information;
 - receive storage information including an identification of the storage facility, a time received by the storage facility, a time delivered from the storage facility, an identification of products commingled during storage, and a certification certifying at least a portion of the storage information;
 - store the received production information, transportation information, and storage information in the database; and
 - generate tracing information for the lot.

Application Number 09/927,920
Responsive to Office Action mailed October 11, 2006

Claim 80 (Withdrawn): A system configured to track of movements of a grown product lot between a producer of the product, transporters of the product, and storage units that store the product, the system comprising:

- a database; and
- a server configured to
 - receive production information from the producer, the production information including an identification of a seed variety used for the lot, the field the lot was grown on, a farm storage location, timing data indicating when the lot was stored and when the lot was shipped from the farm storage location, an indication when the farm storage location is clean and empty, and a certification certifying at least a portion of the production information;
 - receive transportation information from a transporter of the lot, the transportation information including an identification of the transportation device, a time received in the transportation device, a time unloaded from the transportation device, an indication when the transportation device is clean and empty, and a certification certifying at least a portion of the transportation information;
 - receive storage information including an identification of the storage facility, a time received by the storage facility, a time delivered from the storage facility, an indication when the storage facility is clean and empty, and a certification certifying at least a portion of the storage information;
 - store the received production information, transportation information, and storage information in the database; and
 - generate tracing information for the lot.

Application Number 09/927,920
Responsive to Office Action mailed October 11, 2006

Claim 81 (Currently Amended): A method comprising:

receiving product movement information including a location status and a time stamp for each of a plurality products, wherein the time stamp identifies when the respective [[a]] product was moved, and wherein the products include grown commodities from at least two different fields;

storing the product movement information in a database;

assigning a new lot identifier when the grown commodities from two or more of the different fields are commingled by moving or storing the grown commodities together from the different fields as a single lot; and

generating, based on the product movement information and the assigned lot identifiers, a report that identifies identifying a location status for each product location and any other products of a similar type of the grown commodities from the different fields that have been commingled with the product.

Claim 82 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 81, wherein the product movement information includes for each of the products a unique product identifier that includes a designation of a farm, a field and time harvested.

Claim 83 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 81, further comprising recalling a lot determined to be contaminated based on the report.

Claim 84 (Withdrawn): A system comprising:

a database to store product movement information including a location, a location status, and a time; and

a lot tracking module to generate a tracking information for the product based on the product movement information stored in the database.

Claim 85 (Withdrawn): The system of claim 84 further comprising an audit, certification and testing module configured to receive the product movement information.

Application Number 09/927,920
Responsive to Office Action mailed October 11, 2006

Claim 86 (Withdrawn): The system of claim 84, wherein the lot tracking module identifies commingled products based on the product movement information.

Claim 87 (Withdrawn): The system of claim 84, further comprising a program configuration module that receives and presents customer programs.